

Racing with Brisbane Cycling Club

Introduction	2
The Racing Landscape	3
Rider Grading Systems	5
AusCycling Rider Licences	6
Local club racing	6
Open racing	7
Gravel/Cyclocross racing	7
Race Results	8
Getting ready to race	8
Helpful links	9

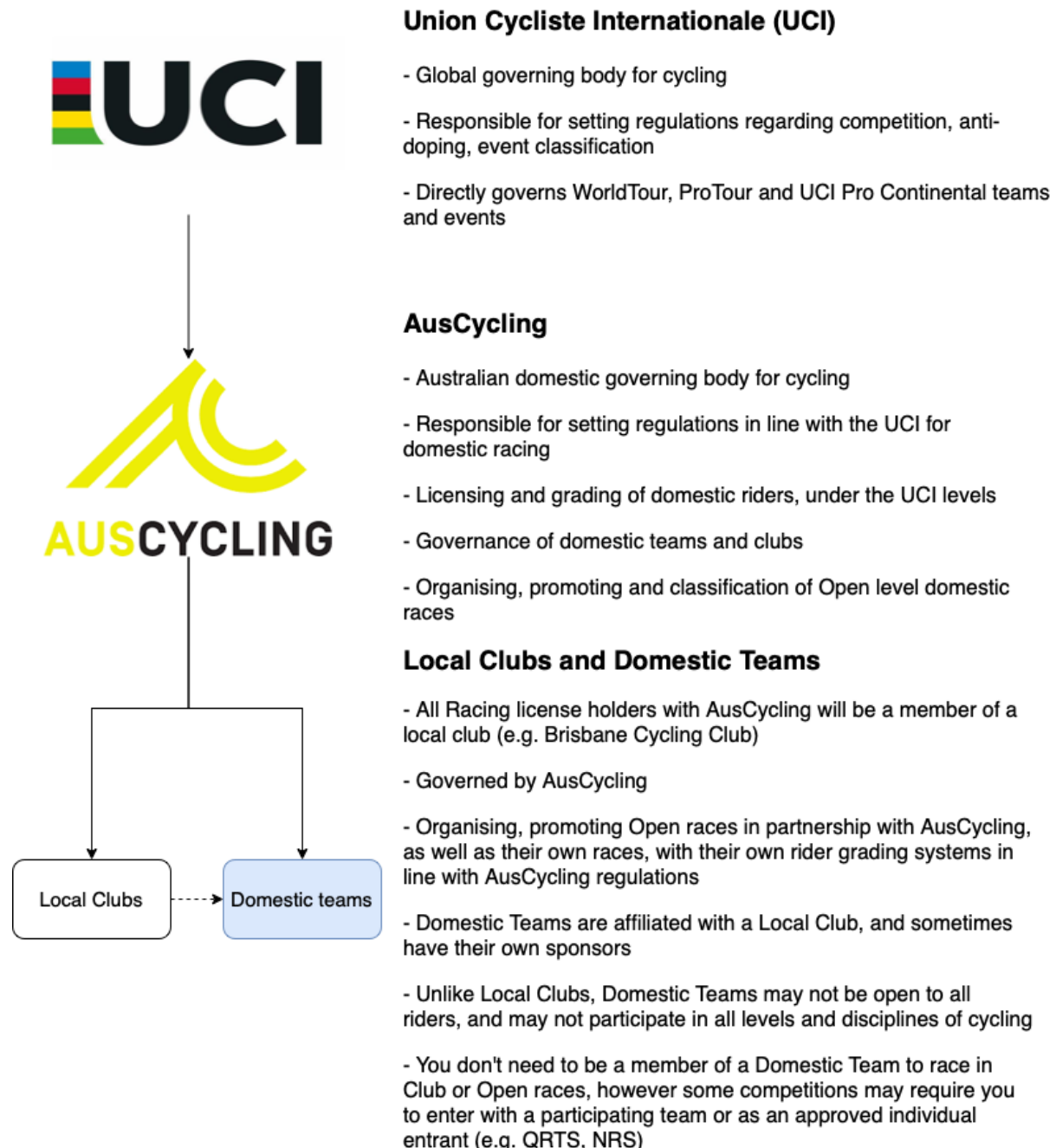
Introduction

Pinning a number on and racing your bike is brilliant fun, a great way to stay fit, connect with the local cycling community and improve your skills on the bike. Brisbane has a very active and well supported racing community, with racing taking place almost every week of the year across all disciplines and at all levels.

In 2021, Brisbane Cycling Club formed the Brisbane Cycling Club Race Collective, a group within the club open to all members, to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for anyone in the club interested in racing, from the very beginning, up to battling for a Rainbow Jersey.

The Racing Landscape

Queensland has a fantastic racing community, offering opportunities to get involved in racing across all disciplines and at all levels, almost every weekend of the year. However, with so many options, and different competitions, clubs and associations involved, it can be quite confusing when figuring out where to start. For context, here is a brief overview of how Brisbane Cycling Club fits into the governance structure for cycling globally;



Note: The Brisbane Cycling Club Race Collective is part of the club, not a separate team. All Brisbane Cycling Club members are welcome, regardless of discipline, level or experience.

Within Australia, there are a number of levels of Road and Criterium racing. These are;

CLUB RACING	OPEN RACING	STATE COMPETITION	DOMESTIC PRO	INTL. PRO
<p>In Brisbane, Club racing is the most common category of racing. Many clubs host Criterium, Road and Kermesse style racing open to all AusCycling Racing license holders on almost every weekend of the year. All races are held in line with AusCycling policy.</p>	<p>Open races are events which are run in partnership with AusCycling, in line with AusCycling policy and using AusCycling's national open grading system. These occur throughout the year, but are less frequent than club races.</p>	<p>State competition is the next level of racing. This racing requires riders to be members of a participating team, or to be an approved individual entrant. This is often considered 'semi-pro' level, due to the level of racing and sponsorship of teams.</p>	<p>National competition is the next level of racing. This racing occurs across the country, rather than limited to the state. Races are often televised and riders ride for sponsored teams, and can receive personal sponsorship/pay.</p>	<p>The final level is international competition. UCI ProTour and WorldTour races are the pinnacle of road competition, with riders competing for large, well funded teams, earning a salary and often having personal sponsorship due to the higher profile.</p>
<p>Requirements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AusCycling Racing license - Club membership (part of license) - Confirmed grading with organising club 	<p>Requirements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AusCycling Racing license and club membership - Confirmed AusCycling Open grading 	<p>Requirements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AusCycling Racing license and club membership - Membership of a participating team/apply to be an approved individual entrant 	<p>Requirements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AusCycling Racing license and club membership - UCI license - Membership of a participating team/apply to be an approved individual entrant 	<p>Requirements;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UCI license - Membership of a UCI ProTour or WorldTour team
<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday Muzz Criterium - Nundah Criterium - Ipswich Criterium - Girraween/Skippy Park Criterium - Lakeside Kermesse - Elimbah Road Race 	<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Queensland Classics Road Series (QCRS) - Sizzling Summer Series (SSS) - Queensland Criterium Series (QCS) - Queensland State Championships 	<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Queensland Road Teams Series (QRTS) 	<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AusCycling National Road Series (NRS) 	<p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tour de France, Giro d'Italia, La Vuelta - Paris-Roubaix - Tour Down Under (from 2023) - Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race

Rider Grading Systems

Different grading systems will apply to different races, depending on the level and the organiser. Most races will require you to have a grading confirmed by the organiser in the relevant system prior to registering for the race. While each system varies in the details, most will have 3 age groupings (Junior, Elite, Masters). Juniors and Elite will then be broken down by level (A-grade being the highest, and C/D grade being the lowest, where new racers are often placed). Masters is often 35+, and ranges from Masters 1-Masters 7, with each category being an age group. Here's some more detail on how the different systems compare;

	Juniors	Elite	Masters
AusCycling (Open)	Age grouping up to U19	Level grouping (Elite A, B, C) <i>Note: Masters 30 – 34 (Masters 1) will ride Elite categories only, except for Masters State Championship races</i>	Age grouping; Masters 1- 30-34 Masters 2- 35-39 Masters 3- 40-44 Masters 4- 45-49 Masters 5- 50-54 Masters 6- 55-59 Masters 7- 60-64 Masters 8- 65-69 Masters 9- 70-74 Masters 10- 75-79
AusCycling State/National Championships QRTS UCI Gran Fondo Series (e.g. Tour de Brisbane)	Age grouping up to U19 (Juniors N/A for QRTS)	Age grouping 19-29 for AusCycling State/National Championships 19-34 for all other events	Age grouping; Masters 1- 30-34 Masters 2- 35-39 Masters 3- 40-44 Masters 4- 45-49 Masters 5- 50-54 Masters 6- 55-59 Masters 7- 60-64 Masters 8- 65-69 Masters 9- 70-74 Masters 10- 75-79
Balmoral CC	Single Juniors category for all U9-U17 riders	Level grouping (Elite A, B, C, D)	Single Masters group for 40+, Masters can elect to ride Elite grades instead
Hamilton Wheelers CC	Single Juniors category for all U19 and younger riders	Level grouping (Elite A, B, C, D, E)	Masters are assigned 'E' grade, otherwise Masters can elect to ride Elite grades instead
Lifecycle CC	Junior A- U15-U17 Junior B- U15-U13 Junior C- U13-U11 Junior D- U11-U9 Junior E- U9	Level grouping (Mens A, B, C, D, E) (Womens AB, C, D)	Masters ride with Elite Mens/Womens grades

Ipswich CC	AusCycling Open or Balmoral CC grading used
Gold Coast CC	Self-graded
Sunshine Coast CC	Self-graded
Logan CC	Self-graded

Each of the above grading systems is maintained by each club independently, and prior to racing at one of their events, you must have your grading confirmed by that club's handicapper (usually by completing a webform before entering the race). Here are the links to apply for a grading with each of the above clubs;

- AusCycling Open grading: Complete this form ([grading-application-2021-auscycling.pdf](#)), then have it signed by an AusCycling accredited coach (Warren Biggs and David Shelberg are the Brisbane Cycling Club coaches) and email to AusCycling for consideration by the state grading committee: qld.events@auscycling.org.au
- Balmoral CC: [Grading form](#)
- Hamilton Wheelers CC: [HWCC Grading System/Points Score](#)
- Lifecycle CC: [Lifecycle Grading](#)

Allow about a week for club gradings to be confirmed, and up to 3 months for AusCycling Open gradings to be confirmed, as these must be considered by the state grading committee.

AusCycling Rider Licences

Membership of local clubs affiliated with AusCycling (such as Brisbane Cycling Club) is administered through the AusCycling licence system. AusCycling offers a number of different licences, based on the type of riding you wish to do with the club. At the time of writing, these are;

- Non-Riding member- Provides a way to join a local club as a social member, without including insurance. This licence will allow you to participate in club social rides, however as it does not include insurance, you should consider your own personal circumstances and ensure you have appropriate cover in place separately.
- Lifestyle member- Provides a way to join a local club as a social member, including insurance.
- Race Off-Road member- Provides a way to join a local club as an off-road racing member, and allows for MTB, BMX, CX and BMX Freestyle racing. Insurance is included for social riding, and off-road racing in MTB, BMX, CX and BMX Freestyle.
- Race All Discipline member- Provides a way to join a local club as a full racing member, and allows for racing across all disciplines. This licence is required to participate in Road, Track and Criterium racing.

To view the most up-to-date pricing for AusCycling licences and to register, visit the AusCycling website here: <https://www.auscycling.org.au/membership>

Local club racing

Club racing is a great way to get experience with different types of races, and for more experienced racers to stay sharp and try out new tactics on a regular basis. Some of the regular club races around Brisbane are;

Race	Organiser	Entry Platform
Murrarrie 'Muzz' Criterium	Balmoral CC	EntryBoss
Nundah Criterium	Shared between Hamilton Wheelers CC and Lifecycle CC	
Ipswich Criterium	Ipswich CC	
Lakeside Kermesse	Hamilton Wheelers CC	
Elimbah Road Race		
Runaway Bay Criterium	Gold Coast CC	Buncheur
Magnesium Drive Criterium	Logan CC	
Skippy Park and Girraween Criterium	Sunshine Coast CC	
North Arm Road Race		

Open racing

Open races provide an opportunity to test your skills in longer races, with bigger fields, and often more prize money to race for! Open races are run by AusCycling in partnership with a local club, and while they are less frequent than club races, they often occur regularly through March to October. Some of the open race series' which occur around Brisbane are;

- Sizzling Summer Series (SSS)
- Queensland Classics Road Series (QCRS)
- Queensland Criterium Series (QCS)
- Queensland ITT Series
- Queensland Cyclocross Series
- Queensland State Road/Criterium Championships

Gravel/Cyclocross racing

Gravel and Cyclocross racing are great alternatives to road racing, and are growing quickly in popularity, and there is a growing number of these events occurring around Brisbane which you can participate in with a Race Off-Road or Race All Discipline licence. Gravel racing is mostly unregulated, with specific regulations often differing from event to event (with the exception of National and World Championship events, which are governed by AusCycling and the UCI).

Cyclocross racing is governed by AusCycling and events are held in partnership with local clubs. Events are self-graded, with the addition of an Open category for new Cyclocross racers to try the discipline.

As well as the regular AusCycling technical regulations, the following additional technical requirements apply for Queensland Cyclocross Series races;

- 33/35mm max width, depending on the event

- For series categories all bikes must have drop bars and working brakes. No gravel grinder bikes in CX Race Category.
- Riders in Open categories may ride any bike.

Race Results

Results are generally made available in real-time or shortly after each race, however the platform and format of results publication varies depending on the organiser. You can find results for races around Brisbane here;

Organiser	Platform	Notes
AusCycling/Open races	AusCycling Event Results	Real-time results from on-bike transponders where available, otherwise manually updated by Commissaires throughout the event
Balmoral CC	Results- Balmoral Cycling Club	Updated after the event. Results and podium photos also posted in the Balmoral Facebook Group during the event.
Hamilton Wheelers CC	Results- Hamilton Wheelers	Updated after the event
Lifecycle CC	Lifecycle CC Facebook page	Race results and podium photos published to Facebook after the event
Ipswich CC	Ipswich CC Facebook page	
Gold Coast CC	Gold Coast CC Facebook page	
Sunshine Coast CC	Sunshine Coast CC Facebook page	
Logan CC	Logan CC Facebook page	

Getting ready to race

Once you have your race licence and your grading has been confirmed, you will need to enter and pay for the race through one of the 3 online entry systems used;

- AusCycling entry portal- used for Open races, login with the AusCycling account you created when purchasing your licence
- EntryBoss- used for most club races, requires a separate free account
- Buncheur- used for some club races, not as commonly used as EntryBoss. Also requires a separate free account

The entry link for each race will be posted in the BNECC TeamApp event, so keep an eye out for each race there from about a month prior to the race. Don't forget to RSVP to the race in the app once you've

entered so your clubmates know to keep an eye out for you on race day! Also, keep an eye out on the app for updates from our club coaches, and training/skills sessions held periodically throughout the year to get race fit and hone your skills!

Helpful links

- [Brisbane Cycling Club TeamApp](#)
- [AusCycling Events Calendar](#)
- [AusCycling Policies and Rules](#)
- [EntryBoss](#)
- [Buncheur](#)